

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date:	September 25, 2017
	Agenda Item No.	37
	Roll Call No.	<u>17-1662</u>
	Communication No.	<u>17-669</u>
	Submitted by:	Jonathan A. Gano, P.E., Public Works Director

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving Cooperative Agreement with Polk County to provide watershed coordination services to support metro area Watershed Management Authorities (WMAs).

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of the Cooperative Agreement with Polk County to provide watershed coordination services to support Walnut Creek, Fourmile Creek, and Mud-Camp-Spring Creek, and Beaver Creek WMAs.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$111,000 - \$37,000 annually over three (3) years.

Funding Source: 2017-18 Public Works Operations Budget PW248423 Stormwater Utility Management

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- This agreement continues the existing cost share arrangement with Polk County and other members of the region's WMAs.
- The City is a member of the Walnut Creek and Fourmile Creek WMAs. Each WMA was created to support cooperation among communities to address water quality and flooding issues with an approach that considers the entire watershed. Each WMA received a grant from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, which funded the development of a watershed management plan. The Fourmile Creek Watershed Management Plan was completed in April 2015. The Walnut Creek Watershed Master Plan was completed in June 2016.
- Each plan identifies recommendations for improvements, education strategies, and policies that member communities can each choose to implement to support the overall betterment of the watersheds. Since the WMAs do not have staff or a permanent funding source it has been proposed that Polk County work with Polk Soil and Water Conservation District to provide staff that can support the implementation of plan recommendations among member communities. The support services will include coordination of meetings, water quality monitoring, education and outreach, seeking out funding sources, and supporting efforts to improve ordinances related to stormwater management.

- Polk County has developed an agreement with Polk Soil and Water Conservation District to provide watershed coordination services in the amount of \$165,000 annually for three (3) years. Polk County is seeking funding from 24 members of the three (3) metro area WMAs to contribute to the cost of provide watershed coordination services. Each member community's contribution is based on population and drainage area within the watersheds. Polk County will provide \$64,700 annually, the City of Des Moines will provide \$37,000 annually, and the remaining annual cost of \$63,300 will be provided by other members of the three (3) WMAs.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: August 22, 2016

Roll Call Number: [16-1419](#)

Action: [Cooperative](#) Agreement with Polk County to provide watershed coordination services to support metro area watershed management authorities and receive and file Fourmile and Walnut Creek Watershed Master Plans. ([Council Communication No. 16-478](#)) Moved by Moore to adopt. Motion Carried 6-1. Absent: Hensley.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Funding agreement to continue similar funding beyond the three (3) year term of this agreement may be considered for Council approval in future years.

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